

Fourth Annual Gerry D. Howell A+ Educator of the Year Award Nomination/Application Process



In the memory of Gerry D. Howell, long-time A+ Schools Program executive director and the inspiration behind the creative teaching and learning of countless educators, administrators and students across North Carolina, the A+ Schools Program announces the fourth annual Gerry D. Howell A+ Educator of the Year Award. To honor her legacy, the A+ Schools Program will select one dedicated A+ educator who best exemplifies the values of the A+ Schools Program and its philosophies.

A great A+ educator:

- challenges, motivates and inspires students by supporting a learning environment that is art-filled, creative, relevant, engaging and reflective.
- is respected by peers, parents and students.
- is caring and creative, seeking to enrich the lives of all students.
- demonstrates a commitment to the arts, a collaborative spirit, leadership and flexibility.
- has a dedication to life-long learning.

Who is eligible?

Pre-K through 12th grade classroom teachers, arts educators, special area teachers, special needs teachers, coordinators and administrators in active North Carolina A+ schools are eligible. Educators may be self-nominated or nominated by their peers, administrators or supervisors. There is no minimum requirement for years of educational experience to be qualified for the Gerry D. Howell A+ Educator of the Year.

Recognition

The Gerry D. Howell A+ Educator of the Year will serve for one school year as an ambassador of the A+ Schools Program. (This ambassador role will vary according to the recipient's availability.) The recipient will be recognized on the A+ Schools Program website, in a press release and will receive a plaque as well as more than \$250 worth of Crayola products for use in his/her school. The 2015 recipient will be invited to attend the N.C. Center for the Advancement of Teaching's (NCCAT) Teacher Leadership Institute in Ocracoke with other N.C. Teachers of the Year. She/He will also receive free registration for the A+ Schools Program 20th Anniversary Conference August 3-5, 2015, in Durham.

Nomination/Application Process

Educators who wish to apply for the 4th Annual Gerry D. Howell A+ Educator of the Year Award are asked to submit the following:

1. Nominee application (see attached)
2. Letter of recommendation (by someone other than nominee) that addresses the A+ qualities exemplified by the nominee
3. Curriculum vitae/resume of no more than three pages
4. A first-person statement from the nominee (maximum of 500 words) on the value of learning through the arts and the importance of the A+ Essentials and philosophy
5. An essay (maximum of 500 words) that includes the nominee's personal feelings and beliefs about teaching/education, including the nominee's ideas of what makes an outstanding A+ educator. The essay should also describe the rewards the nominee finds in being an educator and how his/her beliefs are demonstrated in their personal style.
6. Two photos: a headshot of the nominee and an image that shows the nominee in action with students or other educators (both submitted as .jpg files).

To submit application materials, please send an email to aplusschools@ncdcr.gov with the title "A+ Educator of the Year" and the nominee's name in the subject line.

To this email, please attach:

- Completed nominee application
- CV/resume
- Required personal statement
- Required essay
- Two JPEG photos

Applications must be submitted via email to aplusschools@ncdcr.gov and must be received no later than 11:59 p.m. on Wednesday, April 15, 2015.

Following the selection process, the Gerry D. Howell A+ Educator of the Year Award winner will be announced at the spring quarterly A+ webinar on Thursday, May 7, from 4 to 5 p.m.

Sponsors of the 4th annual Gerry D. Howell A+ Educator of the Year Award:



For more information

Please contact Jennifer Huggins, A+ Schools Program Coordinator, at (919) 807-6520 or jennifer.huggins@ncdcr.gov with any questions about the application process for the Gerry D. Howell A+ Educator of the Year Award, or visit the A+ Schools Program website at <http://aplus-schools.ncdcr.gov>.

